

W5YI

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter REPORT

Up to the minute news from the world of amateur radio, personal computing and emerging electronics. While no guarantee is made, information is from sources we believe to be reliable.

May be republished providing credit is given to *The W5YI Report*.

Fred Maia, W5YI, Editor, P. O. Box 565101, Dallas TX 75356
Electronic mail: fmaia@prodigy.net Website: <http://www.w5yi.org>
Tel. 817-461-6443 FAX: 817-548-9594

Vol. 23, Issue #10

\$1.50

PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH

May 15, 2001

In This Issue...

New FCC Commissioners Nominated
First Space Tourist is a Ham Operator
Amateur Call Signs Issued to May 1st
Ham Missionary Accidentally Killed in Peru
New Video Game Consoles to Debut
Web-connected Air Conditioning
Dell Computer Now U.S. Sales Leader
Legal Suit: Cellphones Hazardous to Health
CB Operator Socked with \$13,500 Fine
Unsolicited Phone and Fax Advertising
World Radiosport Team Competition 2002
K1MAN to Return to Amateur Airwaves
FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement News
High Definition Digital TV "Breakthrough"
LPFM: Giving a Voice to the Voiceless

The Bush FCC Takes Shape!

Once upon a time there used to be seven FCC commissioners, but now there are five. Some years ago, Congress decided to punish the FCC and cut the number of commissioners from seven to five. And the commissioners' terms were cut from seven years to five years.

As a general rule the five year terms are staggered so that one expires each year. The President appoints the commissioners and selects one of them to be chairman. No more than three of the five can be from a single political party.

Four years ago, President Bill Clinton not only got to designate the Chairman – former FCC general counsel William Kennard – but three additional appointees as well: Harold Furchtgott-Roth, Gloria Tristani and Michael Powell.

Harold Furchtgott-Roth worked on Capitol Hill for House Commerce Committee chairman Thomas Bliley (R-Va.) and helped draw up the 1996 telecom reform act. Gloria Tristani gave up a gubernatorial race in her home state of New Mexico because the FCC commissionership "was a sure thing -- It's easier to convince 100 senators than a million voters, she said. Michael K. Powell came from the Antitrust Division of the Justice Department where he was chief of staff. He had also been an attorney with O'Melveny & Myers LLP where he practiced telecommunications, antitrust, and employment law. Powell is the son of retired General Colin Powell of Operation Desert Storm fame.

It was unprecedented for a President to name three FCC Commissioners and designate another

as Chairman all at once. The one holdover commissioner was Susan Ness, whom President Clinton appointed to the FCC in 1994.

History has a way of repeating itself!

Earlier this year, Republican Mike Powell, a sitting Commissioner, was designated FCC Chairman by President Bush. His father is now Secretary of State Colin Powell. And due to term expirations and resignations, President Bush also gets to nominate three FCC Commissioners to fill out the five person panel. Bush named two Republicans and a Democrat. The FCC will have a Republican majority to reflect a Republican in the White House. Again, Democrat Susan Ness is the lone holdover.

Nominee Michael J. Copps (a Democrat) had been the Assistant Secretary of Trade Development, International Trade Administration in the U.S. Department of Commerce for the past three years. He was also the point person at the Commerce Dept. dealing with the Y2K (Year 2000) computer problem. Copps was a former a former chief of staff to Sen. Ernest "Fritz" Hollings (D-SC), the top Democrat on the Senate Commerce Committee.

The president named telecommunications attorney, Kathleen Q. Abernathy, vice president for public policy at BroadBand Office Communications Inc. She previously was a communications attorney at the Washington, DC technology law firm of Wilkinson, Barker, Knauer, LLP ...representing such well known telecommunications firms as Air Touch Communications, Inc. and U.S. West, Inc.

THE W5YI REPORT [Pub. No. 009-311] is published twice monthly by The W5YI Group, Inc., 2000 E. Randol Mill Road # 608-A, Arlington, TX 76011

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: (U.S., Canada and Mexico) One Year (24 issues) \$24.50 • Two Years: \$45.00 • Three Years: \$64.00. • Tel. 817/461-6443
Foreign Subscriptions via Air Mail: \$39.50 per year. (Payment may be made by Check, Money Order, VISA or MasterCard payable in U.S. funds.)

Periodicals Postage paid at Arlington, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to THE W5YI REPORT, P.O. Box 565101, Dallas, TX 75356

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #2

May 15, 2001

Nominee Kevin Martin was a special assistant to the president for economic policy. He was deputy general counsel for Bush's campaign and served as legal counsel for outgoing FCC commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth.

Washington communications lawyer Richard E. Wiley, an FCC chairman in the 1970's during the Ford administration and a leading media attorney in Washington played an advisory role in the Bush transition process. A lifelong Republican, Wiley is widely respected for his legal skills, technical expertise and personal integrity. And he knows all the FCC commissioners on a first-name basis.

Wiley's 200-member law firm -- Wiley, Rein & Fielding -- has represented a long list of industry giants such as CBS Inc., SBC Communications Inc. and Walt Disney Co. Wiley is so influential that he is often called the "sixth commissioner" to the five-member FCC.

He said that in his discussions with Bush campaign lawyer Kevin Martin -- himself a former member of Wiley's law firm -- he only gave background input about the FCC and didn't make personal recommendations. But Kevin Martin was one of Bush's choices as FCC Commissioner.

With the three new appointees, Bush is in a position to influence telecommunications policy for some time to come. The Senate must confirm Bush's picks.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell said each of the nominees will bring important experience and expertise to the commission and each is well known in FCC circles. House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman W. J. "Billy" Tauzin (R-La.) who had been at odds with the Clinton FCC was particularly pleased with the choices. He said "All three of the nominees have impeccable credentials and fully understand the important role telecommunications plays in our global economy." Tauzin replaced former Committee chairman Tom Bliley, R-Va who retired.

Tauzin said, "For years, watching the FCC work has been like watching an old black-and-white movie." He called Powell's nomination, "...one of President Bush's best -- and most exciting -- selections for his new administration ...and the one person best suited to bring the agency into the 21st century."

Together, the Powell father and son team hold two of the most powerful positions in the Bush administration. As FCC Chairman, Powell presides over critical rulings affecting the telecommunications and Internet landscape. During his three years in the agency, Powell has developed a reputation as a strong advocate of market forces over government regulation and there is little doubt that he will scale back the agency's regulatory role.

Powell promises deregulation, FCC restructuring

The new chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Billy Tauzin of Louisiana, and chairman, Michael Powell, both have said that FCC reform is on top of their agenda for this year. The FCC will attempt to foster innovation and competition by further deregulating

the industries it oversees and taking a market-based approach toward policy making. All Internet and telecommunications legislation passes through Tauzin's Commerce Committee.

FCC Chairman Michael Powell told Congress on March 29th that he will remake the agency into a skillful regulator of emerging digital technologies and pledged to reassemble the Commission's technical expertise to help commissioners sort through the bewildering issues created by new technology and industry convergence.

He wants to build a new FCC that offers "an efficient, decisive organization" that can respond quickly to industry trends by "recognizing that markets work on Internet time." Tauzin had previously blamed the FCC for some of the meltdown of high-tech stocks because of the agency's slow action to deregulate.

Powell laid out a new four point program before Congress for reforming the agency calling for a "substantive policy vision" consistent with current communications statutes; improved management and operations; the rebuilding of the FCC's technical and economic expertise; and an organizational streamlining of the agency that reflects the convergence of technologies and industries.

"Chairman Powell inherited an agency adrift," Tauzin said. "It has drifted from its designated mission, ...and it has drifted from the law." He said the FCC has been slow to finish the deregulation ordered in the 1996 Telecommunications Act because it was more occupied with its own agenda, such as low-powered FM radio stations and the e-rate to subsidize Internet connections in schools and libraries both of which Tauzin said "...fall outside the regulator's authority granted by Congress."

Powell has long criticized the lack of technical expertise needed to implement such laws as the 1996 Telecommunications Act. "The commission must have a strong fluency in technology," he testified. "The situation is grave." He said there was an engineering shortfall at the Commission and that their engineering staff had decreased by more than 20 percent in the past six years as regulatory issues have grown increasingly complex. To make matters worse, within the next four years, an estimated 40 percent of the agency's engineering staff will be eligible for retirement. Powell said his "excellence in engineering" program will look for ways to attract new engineers through better pay and upgraded facilities.

Powell's restructuring plan would also modernize the agency's bureaus and duties. The objective, he told Congress, is "...a functional organization designed along market lines, rather than technical ones."

Different laws apply to different telecommunications services. For example, DSL (phone-based high speed Internet access) is regulated under phone rules, meaning they must open their networks to competitors; while cable modem offerings are regulated as a cable service, as such they are not obligated to share their cables lines with competitors. Powell said that similar technology-driven services should be regulated the same rather than under separate cable, phone, wireless or satellite rules.

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #3

May 15, 2001

AMATEUR RADIO STATION CALL SIGNS

...sequentially issued as of the first of May 2001

Radio District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen.	Group D Novice
0 (*)	AB0QV	KI0RY	(***)	KC0KNM
1 (*)	AA1YH	KE1LZ	(***)	KB1GSJ
2 (*)	AB2RE	KG2RN	(***)	KC2HXJ
3 (*)	AA3WX	KF3EB	(***)	KB3GNE
4 (*)	AG4IL	KV4FM	(***)	KG4NEM
5 (*)	AD5DZ	KM5XL	(***)	KD5OGT
6 (*)	AD6WU	KR6ES	(***)	KG6GHS
7 (*)	AC7ND	KK7WW	(***)	KD7MYX
8 (*)	AB8KS	KI8JZ	(***)	KC8RHI
9 (*)	AB9BY	KG9RA	(***)	KB9ZMW
N. Mariana	NH0Z	AH0BB	KH0MX	WH0ABP
Guam	(**)	AH2DO	KH2VI	WH2ANX
Hawaii	(**)	AH6RA	(***)	WH6DGN
Am. Samoa	AH8U	AH8AI	KH8DO	WH8ABF
Alaska	(**)	AL7RR	KL1CR	WL7CVG
Virgin Islands	(**)	KP2CQ	NP2LS	WP2AIN
Puerto Rico	WP3L	KP3BL	WP3KO	WP4NOU

* All 1-by-2 and 2-by-1 call signs, ** 2-by-1 and *** "N-by-3" call signs have been assigned. (Source: FCC Database)

FIRST CITIZEN SPACE TOURIST IS A HAM OPERATOR

California tycoon Dennis A. Tito, 60, of Pacific Palisades, CA – a one-time rocket engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory – is realizing his life long dream of flying in space. That is to become the world's first cosmic tourist and non-astronaut visitor to the International Space Station "Alpha." His space visit, planned without first getting NASA's approval, could ultimately blaze a trail for a whole new generation of wealthy adventure tourists.

After leaving NASA, Tito went into finance and founded the Wilshire Associates investment firm in Santa Monica, Calif., which manages clients and pension funds with billions in assets. The firm also has two high-profile Wilshire financial indexes that measure the performance of investment styles and act as benchmarks to evaluate the performance of active fund managers.

The original plan called for Russia to fly Tito with a Russian crew to the Mir space station. In exchange, Tito signed a \$20 million contract for the ride with Rosaviakosmos, the Russian Aircraft and Space Agency earlier this year. NASA was not to be involved at all.

But that trip had to be scrapped when the fast decaying Mir had to be dumped in the South Pacific ocean on March 6th due to its poor condition and lack of refurbishing funds.

So that cash-starved Russia could retain the \$20 million he had already paid, Tito then was offered a Soyuz TM-32 cargo junket to the "Alpha" ISS. The "resupply" trip selected was jaunt blasting off from the Baikonur launch pad on April 28th. Tito's flight would last a total of ten days. The purpose of the Soyuz flight was not only to bring supplies, but to also to switch out their Soyuz with one that has been parked at the station for nearly six

months. A fresh Soyuz is kept permanently docked at the station as an emergency escape vehicle. Two "taxi flights" are made each year to drop off a new Soyuz and ferry the old fuel-depleted "lifeboat" back to Earth.

Tito will be accompanied by two Russian cosmonauts – Talgat Musabayev (commander) and Yuri Baturin (flight engineer) – all of whom have been training at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center at Star City outside Moscow. Tito's assignment is that of a "communications system operator." Rosaviakosmos assured its foreign partners that Tito had undergone all the necessary training and was fully ready for the flight. The Soyuz spacecraft is to dock with the space station on April 30.

The "Alpha" International Space Station is, of course, an elaborate 16-nation \$100 billion dollar project orbiting the Earth. NASA is the lead agency. Tito thus becomes the first person ever to buy his way into space.

There was concern that he could get in the way of the crew's work., so NASA has limited Tito's activities to the Russian modules. Tito underwent Russian training and was not thoroughly familiar with the design of the U.S. modules. He will spend most of his six days at the ISS in the 43-foot Russia-made Zvezda ISS module or in the Soyuz rescue spaceship. Interestingly, the Zvezda module is the "hotel" section of the station. It has bunk beds, a refrigerator, a table for eating meals, a toilet and a shower. NASA said he "may" be allowed to visit the NASA portion of the station if escorted by an astronaut.

Tito received less training than what the Russians provided two other non-professional Russian spacecraft travelers, a journalist and a food expert. Some technical activities will be suspended during Tito's stay aboard the ISS ...such as testing of the gigantic robotic arm, developed by Canada.

The Russian insistence on flying Tito took an angry NASA completely by surprise. Citing safety concerns, the 16-nation ISS partners -- including the European Space Agency and NASA – voiced strong opposition to the Tito flight. The international consortium were astonished and dismayed that Russia had independently made a deal to fly Tito to the space station without first consulting them. Russia said that NASA should be proud that the first tourist to travel to the ISS will be a citizen of America

NASA still has nightmares about its first attempt to put a non-professional in space. In 1986, school teacher Christa McAuliffe and the crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger were killed in an explosion shortly after lift-off. It brought the entire U.S. space program to a halt.

NASA wanted the Tito visit postponed at least six months to allow time for a program of more training and medical clearances. Their position was that without the benefit of more training, Tito's trip to the station would be unsafe to himself and the other crew members. But Tito said he did not want to postpone the flight, saying the delay would mean more time away from his family and his job as chief executive at Wilshire Associates in Santa Monica, Calif.

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #4

May 15, 2001

Saying "Nothing has changed or will change..." Russian space officials made clear their right to send Tito to the space station. The two Russian cosmonauts even went to the point of walking out of preflight training at the Johnson Space Center in Houston when Tito was told he could not take part. An annoyed official with the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Center in Moscow said "...we don't need NASA's permission to select the visiting crew, but we still notify them."

Their contention is that Soyuz rocket is a Russian vehicle and the resupply/Soyuz changeout mission is a Russian assignment. And there was nothing in the agreement about the makeup of their crew. NASA later dropped its opposition to the Tito visit without explanation.

Making it clear that the space station is not open to receive tourists on a regular basis, the 16-nation consortium reluctantly signed off on the "exception" to let the Russians deliver Tito to the orbiting lab for a one-week stay after getting some concessions.

The Russian Aerospace Agency is to be "fully responsible" for Tito's flight and must agree never to make unilateral decisions on future civilian flights to the station without preliminary consent of the international partners. Tito also has signed a "Crew Code of Conduct" agreement and a Russian flight rules statement that spell out his crew member responsibilities and limitations. A liability agreement also provides that NASA can not be sued if anything goes wrong, and he must reimburse the project for any damage to the ISS equipment he causes.

Tito said he will work on his own experiments involving stereo photography from space and "other educational activities" which might involve Amateur Radio. He was examined for the Technician Class ham ticket by an ARRL VE team in Moscow and on April 11th, was issued station call sign, KG6FZX.

A computer malfunction in the American segment of the International Space Station had the potential to cause a delay in the Soyuz launch. But when the time came, the Russian rocket lifted off flawlessly on schedule April 28th from the Baikonur cosmodrome. Both Tito's girlfriend, Dawn Abraham and 26-year-old son, Mike were there to watch and videotape the launch.

A computer glitch aboard the Alpha space station had the potential to keep the Shuttle Endeavour at the ISS longer than planned. The Soyuz spaceship carrying Tito could not dock with the ISS if the shuttle was still there on April 30th.

The Russian space agency refused to delay the launch saying they must replace the older Soyuz "lifeboat" before it runs out of enough fuel to return their crew to earth. Russia agreed to put the Soyuz TM-32 in a holding pattern if the shuttle was still at the space station.

But April 29th, Endeavour left, clearing the way for Tito's Soyuz to dock on time. He and his Russian crewmates will depart Saturday, May 5th aboard the Soyuz that's been docked to the space station for six months.

(Adapted from various press reports.)

HAM MISSIONARY ACCIDENTLY KILLED IN DRUG WAR

Veronica "Roni" Bowers KD4CKM, a 35-year-old American Baptist missionary and her newly adopted 7-month-old daughter, Charity were killed April 20 when their plane was mistakenly shot down by a Peruvian Air Force anti-drugs jet fighter.

Their small pontoon-equipped Cessna 185 "float-plane" crash-landed in the Amazon jungle. Both mother and daughter died instantly. She had the baby on her lap. One bullet passed through Roni's heart and into the baby's head.

Riddled with about 50 bullet holes, charter pilot Kevin Donaldson, 42, of Morgantown, PA managed to crash-land the burning plane in the Amazon river. His wounds required surgery to both legs. Roni's missionary husband Jim Bowers KD4CKN and 6-year-old son, Cory were also on board but were unhurt. The three survivors were rescued by local natives who paddled to the plane in dugout canoes. The Bowers' had been missionaries for six years, navigating the Amazon in a houseboat to bring Christianity to remote villages.

The Peruvian military said it was acting on information from a U.S. surveillance plane that had been tracking the single-engine Cessna. The surveillance plane was operating under a contract with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The joint U.S.-Peruvian program seeks to eliminate coca being flown from Peru to Colombia where it is processed and shipped to the U.S.

The tragedy took place near the borders of Colombia and Brazil in an area noted for secret jungle airstrips used by international drug runners. Reportedly, the surveillance plane cautioned the military aircraft not to open fire on the Cessna because evidence suggested that the plane was not trafficking in drugs. The fighter did anyway

Peru said no flight plan had been filed, the plane failed to identify and appeared to take evasive action. Disputing that claim, the survivors said there was no warning and a flight plan was indeed filed ... a copy of which they posted to the Internet. A State Dept. team is en route to Lima to investigate the incident.

According to the Associated Press, another American charter pilot said he has been intercepted three times by the Peruvian military in the past five years. He said he now flies with a ham radio so that he can radio co-workers who alert the authorities. It is not known if the Bowers' had Amateur Radio equipment with them.

A funeral service for the victims was held at the Calvary Baptist Church near Muskegon, Michigan on April 27th. Representatives from the U.S. State Dept. attended the funeral and President Bush called and offered his condolences. A three-foot floral arrangement of red roses was sent by the Peruvian government.

At the funeral, Jim Bowers said he had forgiven the Peruvian pilot who shot down their airplane. He said his wife would have done the same.

(Reported by Reuters, Associated Press and the Knight-Ridder News Service.)

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #5

May 15, 2001

CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY

The \$20 billion "Internet-ready" video game business heats up "big time" this fall as Nintendo releases its next generation GameCube console and Microsoft launches its Xbox system. Both join Sony's 128-bit PlayStation-2 game machine (\$299) which has a one-year head start. More than 10 million PS-2's have already been sold. PS-2 uses a 295-MHz Toshiba processor, storage: full size DVD-ROM and 8MB memory cards.

The big three video consoles are now Sony, Nintendo and Xbox as Sega (and its "Dreamcast" 200-MHz console) exits the hardware market. Sega will now concentrate on game software development for other platforms.

Previously code-named "Dolphin," the extremely small GameCube (just 6x6x4.3 inches) uses a 56K modem to post scores, exchange data with other players, download characters, or play head-to-head on Nintendo's "Blue-Tooth" wireless network.

GameCube software will be released on small (3-inch diameter) 1.5GB proprietary "mini-DVD" optical disks manufactured by Matsushita. Console price: "not yet determined." It is powered by a special IBM 405MHz processor chip.

Microsoft's Xbox features an Intel 733MHz Pentium III processor (the most powerful CPU of any video game console), 64MB of memory, ultra-high resolution and a 10GB hard drive.

Games are released on full-sized DVD discs and the console can play DVD movies. The 1920x1080 pixel clarity is even sharper than HDTV. Mbox retail is also unknown but both the GameCube and Xbox should be in the price "ball park" with the Sony PS-2.

Shake Awake® is a battery-operated alarm clock that you put under your pillow. A pulsating, vibrating alarm awakens even the soundest sleepers. Cost: \$24.50.

Next month, a Houston area electric company will begin a pilot program of web-connected thermostats in 500 homes. The system will permit users (or the utility company) to adjust air conditioning settings remotely thus saving electricity. Residents who forget to turn up their air conditioning when they depart ...or want a cool house when they return will be able to do so over the Internet. The electric company says it

could save between 10 and 15 percent on utility bills using the new thermostats.

EMERGING COMMUNICATIONS

According to the New York Times, the number of companies monitoring employee e-mail has increased from 25 percent in 1999 to an estimated 40 percent in 2000 due to a combination of more advanced monitoring software and employers' concerns about the volume of network traffic, widespread employee use of corporate equipment for personal business, and the circulation of offensive or obscene email messages and graphics.

The 3G rollout is apparently not going well. Fearing a default, the United Kingdom says they are considering bailing out the debt-ridden wireless telecom industry by refunding £22 billion (\$30 billion U.S.) they spent on third generation (3G) mobile phone licenses. 3G technology sends the high-speed wireless Internet to customers phones.

The UK government is concerned as such heavyweights as BT (British Telecom) and Vodafone have built up a combined debt of \$50 billion paying for licenses across Europe. And the network build-out cost is estimated at an additional \$150 billion!

The most likely rebate program will take the form "vendor financing" where the government loans back the license money to pay for the network construction. Staggering license prices were paid during the UK 3G auction.

Japan was to be the first to roll out 3G mobile phone service in Tokyo next month. Japanese NTT DoCoMo is now saying that there will be a delay until October. Their 3G "i-mode" service is 40 times faster and includes video and data.

It's illegal for drivers to use a cell-phone in Russia without handsfree equipment. A new law requires drivers in moving vehicles to only use mobile phones with earpieces and microphones that leave hands free to hold the wheel.

COMPUTER INFO

Two leading market research firms (*Gartner Dataquest* and *International Data Corp.*) both released surveys that show **Dell Computer Corp is now the**

world's No. 1 PC maker ...accounting for 12.8 percent of the global market. Houston's Compaq Computer, now No. 2 had been the worldwide leader for the past ten years.

Dell took the lead due to its ability to rapidly pass along component cost reductions to buyers. Dell sells directly to its customers rather than relying on distributors or stores that are locked into a retail price based on previously purchased inventory.

Michael Dell started the Austin, Texas-based direct seller of computers in his college dormitory in 1984 and built it into a \$31 billion company. Hewlett-Packard Co. is now the No. 3 PC seller worldwide; IBM is No. 4.

For the first time since the mid-1980s, fewer U.S. personal computers were sold in the U.S. last year. The global market showed to an anemic 3.5 percent growth last year (to 32.5 million PCs), well below the double-digit growth of the past two decades.

Get eFax faxes free as email! When people send faxes to your personal, private eFax number, you receive them as email attachments that you can view, edit with remarks, and forward. All major e-mail software is supported including online services such as Hotmail and Yahoo mail. Phone numbers are based on where eFax.com has available numbers and not where you live. The service also allows you to receive faxes at your laptop computer when you are traveling. Sign up online at: <www.efax.com>.

INTERNET NEWS

Featured at the Home Automation Show in Las Vegas April 4-6 2001 was **Orbit, a wireless web tablet that lets you surf the Internet from your backyard hammock.** Less than 3 pounds, it displays a bright 800x600 touch screen within 200 feet from the base transmitter. Uses new IEEE 802.11B over-the-air RF connectivity standard. Includes an on-screen keyboard and wireless keyboard. More info at: <www.qubit.net>.

Coffee giant Starbucks believes everyone will eventually have wireless Internet access. They are sinking millions into a high-speed wireless Internet "cyber-café" joint venture with Microsoft for their stores. But it will be different. Instead of having terminals to

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #6

May 15, 2001

access the Internet, users will provide their own enabled laptop, smart phone, Pocket personal computer, or wireless handheld device. You will simply walk into a networked Starbucks with your web-enabled device, log on and start surfing. Starbucks system will automatically detect the LAN card of registered customers. All you need to do is open up your Web browser. Some Internet services will be free.

Looking for a job? FlipDog.com is a novel site that uses "spiders" to scour corporate sites and grab job listings. A spider is a software program that goes out on the web and collects information.

FlipDog has already found over 500,000 jobs from more than 50,000 companies that don't even know FlipDog is listing them. See: <www.flipdog.com>

WASHINGTON WHISPERS

The world's largest cellular telephone carriers (Verizon, Sprint PCS and Nextel) and handset makers (Motorola, Nokia and Ericsson) are the targets of two class-action lawsuits that contend health risks due to harmful radiation. The suits, filed in Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York state courts were filed by high-profile Baltimore lawyer Peter G. Angelos who also owns the Baltimore Orioles baseball team. Angelos represented the State of Maryland in the 1996 lawsuit against the tobacco industry which generated \$4.2 billion for Maryland.

According to the *Washington Post*, the lawsuits say "...there is a link between cell-phone use and an increased risk of brain damage, genetic irregularities and other health problems."

One lawsuit seeks unspecified punitive damages and money to reimburse people who bought cell-phone headsets to reduce exposure to radiation. The other suit demands that wireless telephone companies provide customers with headsets that keep the cell-phone antenna away from the user's head.

On April 18th, the FCC socked Jerry Smith of Claymont, Delaware with a \$13,500 fine for "willful and repeated" violations of the CB Radio rules. He is charged with operating an illegal high power Citizens Band radio station. The station used a non-type-accepted AM transmitter and an external RF power amplifier. He has been ordered

to pay the fine within 30 days. The FCC's Philadelphia office previously sent a NAL (*Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture*) to Smith on January 8, 2001 with no response.

The Government Printing Office now has the newly printed Title 47 (Telecommunications) of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) available in five different volumes. Credit card orders go to (202) 512-1800, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. EST, faxed orders to (202) 512-2233, or pay by check to the Superintendent of Documents, ATTN: New Orders, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. **TITLE 47 CFR** Parts 0 to 19 - \$54.00; Parts 20 to 39 - \$41.00; Parts 40 to 69 - \$41.00; Parts 70 to 79 - \$54.00 and Parts 80 to End - \$54.00.

While there are no laws against sending unsolicited e-mail advertisements (spam) to your computer, the 1991 Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) does regulate the growing use of unsolicited voice and fax advertisements sent through manual and automated dialing. The use of "autodialers" that scan telephone lists (or produce their own telephone numbers using a computerized number generator) to place prerecorded messages is especially aggravating.

Effective Dec. 20, 1992, the FCC adopted rules implementing the TCPA.

1.) The FCC's rules prohibit the transmission of unsolicited commercial voice messages to your home telephone or ("junk") advertisements to any fax machine without your permission unless you have an established business relationship with the caller. **2.)** This can even be making an inquiry about their products or services. But you can end that business relationship by telling the caller that you do not want them to place any more solicitation calls to your home

3.) Commercial fax messages must identify the sender and provide their telephone number. All fax machines manufactured after December 1992 must be able to clearly indicate identifying information on the first page of the transmission.

4.) You can avoid future "live" telephone solicitation calls to your home by stating that you want to be added to the caller's "do-not-call list" and do not want any further solicitations from them. The person, firm or affiliated company making the call must keep a record of your do-not-call request and not make further telephone solicitations for ten years. (Tax-exempt

non-profit organizations are not required to keep do-not-call lists, however.)

5.) The FCC's Do-Not-Call Rules require a person or company placing live telephone solicitations to your home to maintain a record of your request not to receive future solicitations from them.

6.) You can reduce the number of telephone solicitation calls placed to your home by contacting the Telephone Preference Service of the Direct Marketing Association (DMA) P.O. Box 9014, Farmingdale, New York 11735-9014 and ask that your home phone be added to their "do not call" list. This does not take the place of notifying each caller that you want to be added to their do-not-call list.

7.) Having an unlisted or non-published number does *not* mean you will not get unsolicited advertising telephone calls. Your phone number can be easily "manufactured" using a number generator ...or collected and included on lists sold to other organizations or businesses.

8.) The FCC's rules require persons or companies making a telephone solicitation to your home to provide you the name of the caller or firm on whose behalf the call is being made and their telephone number or address.

9.) Persons or businesses using an autodialer to send a computerized message must clearly state its identity at the beginning of the message, and its telephone number or address during the message.

10.) The FCC's rules prohibit telephone solicitation calls to your home before 8 am or after 9 pm (local time at your home).

11.) An unknown person or business cannot arbitrarily place a computerized or prerecorded commercial voice call to your home unless you have given prior express consent to such calls. That's the law!

12.) Contact the FCC if you receive a commercial telephone (voice or fax) solicitation call at your home on two or more occasions within any 12-month period after you requested to be added to their do-not-call list.

Send to: FCC Common Carrier Bureau, Consumer Complaints - Mail Stop 1600A2, Washington, D.C. 20554.

Your letter should contain (a.) the date you requested to be added to the organization's do-not-call list, and the name of the individual you spoke with (b.) the home (or fax machine) telephone number the solicitor called, (c) the name, address and telephone number of the organization placing the calls, (d) the dates and times you received voice calls or fax

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #7

May 15, 2001

messages from the organization, and (e) copies of any unsolicited advertisements sent to your fax machine.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has added photos of ham spy Philip Hanssen K9QVL of Vienna, VA to its website. Hanssen, 57 was arrested Feb. 18th and charged with espionage for the Soviet Union and then Russia for more than 15 years. Also included are photos of various document and cash "drop sites" and a photo of a package of \$50,000 left by the Russians for Hanssen. See: <www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel01/hanssenphotos.htm>. The FBI writeup on the case can be found at: <www.fbi.gov/majcases/hanssen/hanssenmaj.htm>.

AMATEUR RADIO

The tornado season is upon us. Check out the new NOAA's National Severe Storm Laboratory on the Web at <www.nssl.noaa.gov>. It contains a wealth of information.

In preparation for the 2001 Federal WIA Convention, a proposal has been made for the Wireless Institute of Australia to launch a WIA National News Service. At present, Q-News, produced by Graham Kemp VK4BB, is an activity of the VK4 (Queensland) Division.

The proposal is to make this a national "WIA-NEWS" service with input and news from all seven Australian ham radio districts.. It takes VK4BB about ten hours per week to write, edit and present Q-NEWS which is received by Australian amateurs and ham radio societies around the world. The Q in Q-NEWS refers to the "Q" code.

WIA membership peaked around 1988/9. Since then, the Australian membership figures have been in serious decline, to the point where they are now below "critical mass." Another proposal seeks to restructure WIA's separate division model to a national organization where "...the individual amateur member is the all-important basic building block of the WIA."

At present each division represents a separate territory and operates independently of all others. A Steering Committee would be appointed to ensure that all individual members have access to a similar range of national services at similar membership fees.

The WIA council has already voted:

(1.) to support the full 7.00 to 7.300 MHz (40-meter) allocation for the Amateur Service, and not move to 6.9 to 7.2 which will not work in Australia and; (2.) to support the removal of Morse Code as a mandatory examination requirement for access to HF bands.

The next (Expedition 3) crew is set to launch to the International Space Station on July 12, 2001.

They will replace the Expedition 2 crew of Jim Voss Voss, Susan Helms (KC7NHZ) and Yuri Usachev who have been on the ISS since March 8th. The Expedition 3 crew consists of U.S. Astronaut Frank L. Culbertson, Jr. and two Russian Cosmonauts, Vladimir M. Dezhurov and Mikhail Turin. Culbertson does not hold a U.S. Amateur Radio license. Unless that changes, there will be no U.S. school contacts until January 2002 when the Expedition Crew No. 4 arrives. Astronaut Carl E. Walz, a member of that crew, holds KC5TIE.

Remember the story we did a couple of issues ago on the Kentucky State Militia Radio? KMSR was the first unlicensed "patriot" station of the U.S. militia movement. To bring you up to date, the radio activities of KF4ZMG (Charles Puckett, Nicholasville, KY) and AA8DP (Stephen Anderson, Somerset, KY) have been under FCC scrutiny.

Puckett, who claims to be the State Commander of the Kentucky State Militia, was questioned about his 80-meter (3860 kHz) operation - a frequency not authorized to him as a Technician. He said he was operating under the license of AA8DP. When the FCC asked Anderson about Puckett's 80 meter transmissions, Anderson turned his Extra Class ham ticket into the FCC saying the agency was "an agent of a foreign corporation" and did not have authority over him or his radio operation. The FCC obliged and promptly canceled his license.

Anderson then launched unlicensed KMSR on 3260 kHz which Puckett later disavowed as being part of the Kentucky State Militia movement. To remain on the air, Anderson started still another new shortwave "pirate" station called United Patriot Radio (UPR.).

Now comes word that Anderson has been dismissed from the Kentucky State Militia for continuing the United Patriot Radio broadcasts. Website Clandestine Radio Watch said they were sent an "official communique" from 'Brigadier General' Charlie Puckett (which was also cop-

ied to the FBI) stating that Anderson violated specific orders to close his radio station. "UPR was allegedly sponsored by the Kentucky Riflemen Militia..." another state militia group CRW said.

The Puckett "communique" said "The disregard of orders is something that the Kentucky Militia cannot tolerate. Major Steve Anderson was given direct orders by me on March 20th to cease broadcasting on 3.260 MHz. Mr. Anderson followed these orders for three days. After that time the station was brought up to full operation on 3.260 MHz." Anderson was also supposed to return donations that he had received and, according to the Puckett memo not only did not do that, but accepted even more.

"Commander" Pucket said he had "...no choice but to dismiss Mr. Anderson from all duties, and membership with the Kentucky State Militia." The 'communique' was signed "Brigadier General Charlie Puckett, State Commanding Officer Kentucky State Militia."

So the saga continues. In any event, Kentucky State Militia Radio (KMSR) and United Patriot Radio (UPR) are (at least for now) both off the air. Most of this information comes from FCC enforcement letters and various bulletins on CRW's underground radio website at: <www.ClandestineRadio.com> .

The next World Radiosport Team Championship, or 'WRTC' - sometimes described as 'the Olympics of Amateur Radio' - will take place in Finland in July 9-16, 2002. WRTC is a competition among two-person teams of some of the top amateur radio contest operators in the world. Last year's highly successful WRTC 2000 was held in Slovenia.

WTRC-2002 will be 50 percent sponsored by Finnish telecommunications giant, Nokia with the global Amateur Radio community chipping in with the other half of the \$200,000 budget.

In the United States, donations should go to the Northern California DX Foundation (or just "NCDXF") with the notation "For WRTC-2002" written on the check. Send to: Rusty Epps W6OAT, 651 Handley Trail, Redwood City, CA 94062

The plan is to set up 45 to 50 station sites in locations around the Helsinki area; each equipped with identical equipment and antenna systems. By bringing these competitors together in one geographic area and providing each with equal stations, the variables normally associated

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #8

May 15, 2001

with radio contesting are minimized, and the individual team's operating skills are emphasized.

Participants from all continents will be selected based primarily on their track records in past contests. WRTC-2002 will be hosted jointly by the 5000 member *Finnish Amateur Radio League (SRAL)* and Contest Club of Finland (CCF). Further details at: <www.wrtc2002.org>.

A news item appearing in the April 13th edition of DX Listening Digest – a shortwave listener website at: <www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio/dxld1052.txt> says that "After an absence of a couple of years, Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, of Belgrade Lakes, Maine, founder of the *International Amateur Radio Network* and the *American Amateur Radio Association* (which he calls an alternative to the ARRL), is about to return to the air."

The K1MAN website confirms at <www.k1man.com/WEB10/Page_36x.html> that (Quote) "The IARN Amateur Radio Call-In Talk Show is of direct interest to the Amateur Radio Service and is presently scheduled to be broadcast live in streaming audio over the Internet on Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. Eastern time. An 800 number will be given out during the show to encourage participation. Anyone is welcome to carry the show live or re-transmit it by tape on HF, two meters, large dish satellite, or whatever amateur bands desired as well as archive the show for later listening or broadcast over the Internet. We presently plan to re-broadcast this show to Radio Amateurs on 14.275 MHz., 3.975 MHz. SSB and 3.890 MHz. high AM beginning June 1, 2001 with times to be announced later." (End quote.)

The "2001 Time Capsule" that Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF of Amateur Radio Newsline is putting together for the 50th Anniversary of the Dayton Hamvention (May 18 to 20) is coming along. It will be assembled at the Ham Radio Town Meeting, a forum scheduled for Saturday, May 19th. Various audio cassettes, electronic photos, video cassettes, books, CD's, repeater directory, product sheets, ham software and small equipment have been collected. The "Time Capsule" will actually be an unused 5-lb ham container compliments of Hormel Foods, Inc. of Austin, Minnesota!

The Time Capsule will be presented to the Dayton Amateur Radio Association at the Grand Banquet on Saturday

evening. The "Time Capsule" will be opened at the 75th Hamvention in 2026 when Amateur Radio should be vastly different!

A Texas ham operator among the 150 to have their names chiseled into the National Law Enforcement Memorial in downtown Washington, DC. Aubrey W. Hawkins, KC5USI (Watusa, Texas) was fatally shot on Christmas Eve when he interrupted a robbery at an Irving, Texas sporting goods store. His slaying was blamed on the so-called "Texas Seven," a group of convicts who escaped from a maximum security prison. The Year-2000 additions to the memorial will be officially dedicated during National Police Week, May 11-16.

FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement

Gregory S. Cook KC6USO (Chico, CA) offered not to renew his Amateur Radio license and to refrain from operating on the ham bands for a period of one year. After that period, all enforcement issues before the FCC concerning KC6USO would be considered resolved. The consent agreement was in response to a charge that KC6USO was broadcasting and playing music on the W6NUT repeater causing it to time out. The FCC accepted Cook's offer and canceled his license but still requires an explanation of his behavior. "Unless you respond satisfactorily, ...any application you file in the future may be designated for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge to determine if you are qualified to become a licensed Amateur."

A n unidentified Toms River, NJ amateur is being required to retake the Technician Class license exam at the FCC's New York City field office.

Michael W. Richards KI3S (Norfolk, VA) was warned by the FCC that he has been monitored interfering with ongoing communications on 14.336 MHz in the 20-meter ham band. "This interference consists of, among others, re-broadcasting Amateur transmissions and weather reports." He is to respond to the accusation.

The FCC has canceled 14 licenses in Puerto Rico for failure to report for an exam retest or test failure: Roman R. Santingo WP3EI, Lith A. Rodrigues WP3EE, Yerila A. Plaza WP3EF, Anjel M. Vega Rosado WP3EJ, Moises R. Fraticelly WP3EB, Jose A. Rosario Velez WP4JSC, Luis A. Cubero Caban KP4DOT, Joaquin O. Pabon Pinero WP4ILO, Carmelo R.

Rosario KP4MLC, Jorge L. Rivera Pagan WP4JPQ, Jose A. Velez Crespo WP4NFA, Luis A. Cotto Luna WP3EH, Juan L. Centeno WP3EG, and Edwin R. Molina Vargas WP3EC. Most of these applicants were examined in Caguas and Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in late 1999 by VE teams headed up by Ivan Jimenez-Valentine WP4DRW and Edwin Garcia KP4OK.

A rthur C. Cook, III KC2FZD (Greenwich, NY) has been asked to respond to allegations that he has "...been operating on CB frequencies transmitting sound effects, recording other operators for playback on various frequencies and otherwise deliberately interfering with ongoing communications on CB service channels." The FCC said such activity jeopardizes his Amateur Radio license and will lead to enforcement action.

R ichard S. Laing, Jr. WB2JBQ (Eden, NY) has been asked to respond to allegations that he is operating an uncoordinated 2-meter repeater on 146.685 MHz that is causing interference to a Canadian system. The Western NY and Southern Ontario Repeater Council contends the repeater was originally coordinated in a different location at less power under a different call sign. The FCC has asked Laing to respond to certain questions concerning his coordination and any received complaints.

A lexei Luque KG2PR (Elizabeth, NJ) has been thanked by the FCC for closing down his 144.070/145.730 repeater system which "...appeared to have no controller and did not identify." The FCC considers the matter closed.

M ichael Kinney (Sherman Oaks, CA) has been warned by the FCC that it "...has evidence that [he has] been operating ...without a license in the Amateur band, and operating overpower ion in the CB service." This operation subjects him to a fine or imprisonment, as well as equipment seizure.

J erry P. Wine KH6UH (Honolulu, HI) was warned in March that the FCC had information that he was using 2-meter direct and repeater frequencies for lengthy broadcasting "...effectively preventing the use of those frequencies by other amateurs." Wine said he considered the transmissions to be an emergency because he was "...being targeted with microwaves and infrared energy..." The FCC said his explanation did not excuse or justify his actions and that future incidents will lead to enforcement action.

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #9

May 15, 2001

ANALOG TO DIGITAL TV PLAN TAKES ON A NEW TWIST

"The transition to digital in this country has been handled about as effectively as California handled the deregulation of energy,"

From speech by Eddie Fritts, NAB president.

Since HDTV receivers are expensive and programming is limited, consumers are hesitant to adopt the new format. It has become apparent that the current plan to switch from analog to digital television is not going well.

A new ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee) digital TV system was adopted in 1995 by the FCC as the standard for digital terrestrial television broadcasts in the U.S. In 1996, broadcasters received digital channels at no costpart of a ten year plan to switch to high-definition television. Congress mandated that HDTV would be the required format for broadcast television signals by 2006. There are currently 187 TV stations in 64 markets transmitting the ATSC standard. While more than a million HDTV sets have been sold, this represents a very tiny percentage of the total U.S. households.

According to the plan, in 2006 broadcasters are to return their analog channel to the Government for auctioning which - if all goes as scheduled - is to reap a very big windfall to the U.S. treasury. But the timetable contains the loophole that HDTV must be received by 85 percent of all households. The FCC hinted at the *National Association of Broadcasters* (NAB) convention held last month in Las Vegas that this time schedule may not be met.

The fact is that due to the extremely high cost of ATSC digital HDTV transmission equipment, telecasters are not in any hurry to meet the schedule. Many stations are also having difficulty getting the necessary construction and zoning permits needed for a digital TV station.

FCC Chairman Mike Powell said that while it was important to try and meet the 2006 time frame, it was Congress and not the FCC who came up with the deadline. He said he preferred a market-driven transition to HDTV rather than a regulator-forced deadline.

Throwing a monkey wrench into the transition plans is the startling revelation that scientists at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) have now come up with a way to condense a wider HDTV signal into the existing 6-MHz channels already allocated to TV broadcasters.

In a nutshell, the Los Alamos engineers have discovered how to deliver HDTV quality without resorting to switching to the ATSC standard. The LANL compression technology allows both the new digital and old analog TV sets to receive a HDTV signal compatible to each system without requiring broadcasters to simulcast two distinctly different signals on two separate channels.

The compression concept permits transmission of digital and analog signals in a form that does not require a converter for old receivers since an added software loop in the HDTV receivers recovers the digital information from the same channel. The sharpness of a picture using the algorithm amounts to approximately 80 percent of that of a dedicated ATSC HDTV transmission. ATSC digital

HDTV is very much like a computer file.

The difference in resolution between the ATSC digital HDTV and the specially encoded HDTV can barely be distinguished. This means that the transition could be accomplished in much the same way that black and white television switched over to color ...with the color-coding being squeezed into the same B/W channel space. FCC is aware of the break-through, but is not taking sides.

There are more than 120 million traditional TV sets worth some \$25 billion currently in use in the U.S. It doesn't appear that more than 80 million HDTV sets will be sold in the next five years.

The really big advantage is that broadcasters can transmit the new encoded HDTV algorithm using the same equipment they use now. After HDTV sets are more common, the compressed analog HDTV signal could be converted to the regular (ATSC) HDTV format.

If the LANL technology catches on, the plan for the public to receive ATSC high-definition television -- and the thinking about spectrum -- could receive a major overhaul. Congress' and the FCC are already well into implementing the ATSC plan which calls for the allocation of new digital channels for HDTV, making the public buy a new HDTV set, then abandoning and reselling the old analog spectrum.

The lab's encoding method uses 5 MHz of the allocated 6-MHz band, unlike broadcasts today that use only 4 MHz. To analog-TV viewers, the extra information will appear to be encoded within the black bands at the top and bottom of the screen.

Existing HDTV broadcasters could simulcast two distinctly different signals on their two separate channels, so that regular analog TVs get compressed HDTV over the old broadcast channel. With added software, new digital televisions would be able to decode the additional high-definition information to enhance their display. Existing HDTVs will also only require a small software change to correctly receive the Los Alamos signal.

The technology used in the compression algorithm was initially invented at the Los Alamos lab for processing images from underground nuclear tests. A patent filed in November 2000 permits the lab to license its encoder to television broadcasters and broadcasting equipment manufacturers.

The new encoder will enable broadcasters to meet the 2006 Congressional HDTV mandate without forcing everybody to go out and buy a new TV. But it could end the plan for TV broadcasters to return their analog channel to the Government in 2006 for auctioning since many consumers will undoubtedly be satisfied with encoded HDTV. In any event, no one believes that 85 percent of the public will be going out and spending \$3,000 or more for the new HDTVs within the next five years.

The Los Alamos National Laboratory is operated by the University of California for the National Nuclear Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Energy. standard. See: <<http://www.lanl.gov/worldview/science/>>

W5YI REPORT

America's Oldest Ham Radio Newsletter

Page #10

May 15, 2001

LPFM: GIVING A VOICE TO THE VOICELESS....

Even though Congress and the NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) put a crimp in the FCC's Low Power FM radio initiative, the Commission continues to accept applications for LPFM construction permits.

The FCC has announced that it will accept LPFM applications from June 11 through 15, 2001 from the last of its states and territories. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Guam, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Vermont, Washington, and West Virginia comprise Windows 4 and 5.

After a two year proceeding, the Commission established the new LPFM service on Jan. 20, 2000 to create new broadcasting opportunities for locally-based organizations to serve their communities. Prior to adopting LPFM, the Commission conducted four major technical studies of 75 consumer FM radio receivers of various types and performance capabilities, including automobile radios, component tuners or receivers, portable radios such as "boom boxes," personal radios such as "Walkman" type units, and clock radios and concluded the interference potential to full service FM broadcasters was minimal.

The so-called LP100 stations will serve an area with a radius of approximately 3.5 miles with 50 to 100 watts of erp. The FCC did not adopt its original proposals to permit 1000 watt commercial LPFM stations. Still to be decided is whether the FCC will implement LP10 (10 watt two mile range) low power stations.

On March 27, 2000, the Commission conducted a lottery to determine the order in which applications would be accepted for LPFM stations from applicants in each of five pre-defined groups of states and territories. The Commission's Mass Media Bureau (MMB) consolidated the last two filing windows to speed the filing process for applicants in these remaining areas. There are 100 FM channels (Channel 201 to 300) spaced every 200 kilohertz between 88.1 and 107.9 MHz.

Earlier this year, Congress mandated two rule changes, requiring that LPFM stations meet prescribed minimum distance separations to full service FM stations operating on third adjacent channels. The rules also prohibit an applicant from obtaining an LPFM license if that applicant has engaged in any manner in the unlicensed operation of any station.

That eliminated all "pirate" broadcasters ...even if the station immediately shut down after being warned. The Commission had initially said that "pirate" unlicensed broadcasters would be eligible for a LPFM license if they certified that they promptly ceased operations when notified of their violation by the FCC and, in any case, ceased operations as of Feb. 26, 1999. Congress and the NAB were vehemently opposed to that idea.

A statement on the application now includes "...under penalty of perjury, that neither the applicant nor any party to the application has engaged in any manner, individually or with other persons, groups, organizations, or other entities, in the unlicensed operation of any station...."

LPFM applications also must protect pending broadcast applications in these services that were filed prior to April 10, 2001 and existing vacant FM allotments.

Each applicant must be a non-profit educational organization or institution ...or must propose a noncommercial public safety radio service. Applicants for LPFM construction permits must electronically file FCC Form 318.

The MMB operates an online *LPFM Channel Finder* at <<http://www.fcc.gov/mmb/asd/lpfm>> to help applicants find a vacant frequency in their area. The program incorporates protection of third-adjacent channel stations.

Over a thousand LPFM broadcast applications have already been accepted. That doesn't mean that each will be awarded a construction permit since there are a great many applicants asking for the same channel. Some of the types of LPFM stations are interesting. At least one Amateur Radio club applied; the Hancock County Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc., of Bay Saint Louis, MS requested 103.5 MHz. We have been pouring over the applications and there is indeed a very wide variety. Here is an idea:

Athens, GA, Athenstown Media Enthusiasts Assoc.; Mansfield, LA, First Baptist Church; Sitka, AK, Sitka Tribe of Alaska; Ocean City, MD, Edinboro Early School.; Opelousas, LA, Southern Development Foundation - Field Office; Newport, RI, Newport Musical Arts Assoc.; Yarmouth, ME, Maine Science & Technology Museum; Crescent City, CA, College of the Redwoods; Chico, CA, Radio Education Associates (REA); Hammond, LA, Parentcorp Foundation; Frogtown, GA, Frogtown Community Radio; Ada, OK, Pontotoc Educational Radio; Warsaw, IN, Blessed Beginnings; Rockland, ME, Penobscot School; St. George, UT, Assoc. of Community Resources and News (ACORN); St. Hope, AK, North Slope Borough School Dist.; Valparaiso, IN, Neighbors Corp.; St. George, UT, Latinos Unidos Broadcasting; Tallapoosa, GA, Georgia Dept. of Transportation; Atlanta, GA, Fellowship of Holy Hip Hop, Inc., Malibu, CA, Pepperdine University; Red Bluff, CA Red Bluff Joint Union High School Dist.; Logan, UT, City of Logan; Hemet, CA, N. American Indian Mission; Tok, AK, Duct Tape Radio & Humanities Forum; Gore, OK, Cherokee Communications Council; Athens, GA, Web Rights Association; Porterville, CA, Lawyers 2nd Amendment Society; Oroville, CA, Bird Street Media Project; San Clemente, CA, Setec Astronomy Club; Notre Dame, IN, Voice of The Fighting Irish; English, IN, Advanced Search & Rescue; Slidell, LA, Crisis Pregnancy Help Center of Slidell; Georgetown, CA, American River Folk Society; Bartlett, NH, Jackson Ski Community Radio Assoc; Glen, MS, Write to Read Radio; Fort Scott, KS, Mercy Health System of Kansas; Esko, MN, Esko Senior Citizens; Canton, MS, Canton Convention & Vistors Bureau; Kansas City, KS, United Nation of Islam; Farmington, CT, The Broadcasters Club; Yerington, NV, Rite of Passage Athletic Training Centers & Schools; Gulfport, MS, Gulfport Job Corps Center; St. Marys, KS, St. Marys Academy Home Study School Assoc.; Mt. Pleasant, MI, Children Saving Children Services, and on and on....